

REMARKS

The Title and claims 1-4, 6, 9, 11, 13 and 16 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found at page 11 of the specification. Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 6, 7 and 13-15 were "objected to".

Claims 1-16 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. IN THE TITLE:

The Title has been amended to recite "PORTABLE DEVICE HAVING A CHARGING CIRCUIT AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE FOR USE IN THE CHARGING CIRCUIT OF THE SAME". Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection is overcome.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-5, 8-12, 16 AND 17 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY DALY (U.S. PATENT NO. 5,254,930):

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "a portable device connectable to a battery pack including a secondary battery, the portable device comprising: a charging circuit for charging the secondary battery when the battery pack is connected with the portable device, the charging circuit including a charging terminal used to supply the secondary battery with charging current, and a voltage detection terminal used to detect voltage of the secondary battery in the battery pack, the charging circuit stopping charging of the secondary battery when a voltage decreases to zero volt at the voltage detection terminal".

Daly fails to disclose "stopping charging of the secondary battery when a voltage at the voltage detection terminal decreases to zero volt," as recited in amended claim 1.

Instead, Daly discloses a fault detector for a plurality of batteries in battery backup systems (see Abstract), whereby a battery charger including a supervisory logic which monitors charge current or charge voltage of a battery (VB1, VB2) and generates a fault signal when the charge current or charge voltage is larger than a predetermined value. Specifically, the supervisory logic monitors the batteries for an over-voltage condition, and detects possible over-current in a transformer primary winding (see column 7, lines 49-55; and FIG. 1). That is, Daly stops the battery charger when over-current or over-voltage is detected instead of when the "voltage is decreased to zero volt," as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

Independent claims 9 and 16 have been amended to recite similar features as those of

amended claim 1.

Thus, although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences of various other rejected claims over Daly. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore, defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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